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VOLUME X. NO. 79

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MARCH 2, 1836.

PRICE \$1 PER ANN. IN ADVANCE.

DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS.

FOR PRESIDENT,
MARTIN VAN BUREN.
FOR VICE PRESIDENT,
RICHARD M. JOHNSON.

EXECUTIVE CLEMENCY.

THE RUFFIAN RELEASED.

A Sermon preached to the First Church, on Sunday, 21st Februray, 1836, by its Minister, N. L. FROTHINGHAM.

acts iii. 14.—“Ye desired a murderer to be granted unto you.”

It was a custom among the Jews of our Savior’s time to release a criminal at their great feast of the passover. At the choice of the people, he was unloaded of his chains, brought out from his prison, and declared as free as if he had been innocent. Pilate endeavored to avail himself of this usage to procure the deliverance of the unoffending Messiah, but in vain.—The rabble had the ascendancy, and had their will. A ruffian was released to their wild demands, while the holy and harmless and undefiled, the pattern above the best, the benefactor of the undeserving, the Redeemer of our common race, was given up to a cruel doom.—This is what the apostle Peter alluded to, when he spoke in the text, “Ye desired a murderer to be granted unto you,” while “ye killed the Prince of Life.”

Here we have an example of an institution intended to be one of mercy, sanctioned by civil authority, and hallowed by the appointments of religion, yet connected with and countenancing the most wanton disregard of every principle of righteousness and humanity.

When I bring before me the figure of that convicted malefactor, stalking through the crowd that had been clamoring for his rescue,—eager to begin afresh his career of infamy and blood,—his dark features curled with contempt at the folly of those who had set him loose or scowling with defiance on those who had arrested his outrages,—triumphant over the guiltless, and over the laws of the land;—when I perceive him going away unharmed, owing to the insane intercession of those who thus gave him further permission to ruin and kill;—I am struck with a strange instance of the most flagrant wrong, done under cover of a charitable and even religious seeming. And further than this,—the image of that reprieved wretch passes along like a rebuke of the inconsiderate clemency, that seems to be gaining ground more and more in the proceedings of our own days.

The origin of the usage just mentioned cannot, at this distance of time, be certainly ascertained. We do not know whether it began among the Jews themselves, or was introduced among them by their Roman masters.

Some have supposed that it was an old national ceremony, intended to convey by one remarkable fact the idea of deliverance; as the festival itself was a commemoration of deliverance from Egyptian bondage.—But this is unlikely; for we have no mention of any thing of the kind in any previous part of the Jewish history. We know, on the other hand, that it was not uncommon among the Gentile nations to signalize great occasions of rejoicing or great offices of supplication, by opening prison doors and pardoning the worst offenders; as if to show that the most wretched should be called to share in the general joy, or that the vilest should take their place with the rest to appease the angry heavens in the season of general humiliation and distress.* It seems likely, therefore, that the Roman government had sought to conciliate its Jewish tributaries, by allowing them to elect once in a year some prisoner, whose liberty they might openly and absolutely demand.

But we need not stop at the history of the usage.

It may have grown up in one way or another, and we have little concern in what way. It is of no consequence to us what political uses it may at any time have served. We have a different question concerning it. Was it reasonable, was it right, had it any essential worth in it, any thing to admire, or in the most remote degree to imitate? We may say then, that all such practices, whether of stated observance or of only occasional adoption, appear to have had their source in superstitiousness rather than in any well-considered benevolence. They broke up the evenness, that it is desirable to maintain in all the solemn proceedings of society with its enemies and invaders. They disengaged upon it its evil-doers, without any reasonable cause and by a blind lenity. They took justice out of the hands that were sworn to maintain it, and set it floating upon the popular breath or gave it up to the rule of accidents.

And yet there is something to excuse them, and almost to entitle them to respect, when we consider the rudeness of the times, in which they were demanded and allowed of. Those were despotic and cruel times.

The innocent and the deeply wronged were often crowded then into the dungeons of the world on the other side of the sea, if they do not continue to be so still. Now, if we should suppose the fitters to be struck off from these on a general occasion of festival or of fear, we should have little disposition to complain of the irregularity or the chance event, by which such good was accomplished. We may imagine the poor debtor, who had no other sin but his poverty,—the brave captive, whose success in the battle had not been so good as his cause,—or the unhappy object of a tyrant’s suspicion,—or the victim of private and personal revenge,—given back again to the light of freedom; and we should then bless the custom however singular, or the impulse however unreflecting, that seemed to throw a broken gleam of irregular mercy over the darkness of a fierce generation.

In our own time and country the whole case is widely different. There are no arbitrary imprisonments, no secret tribunals. There is no room for oppression. The laws are mild, and administered with the most tender regard to the rights and feelings of those who fall under their condemning eyes, and even under that sharp sword of theirs which ought not to be borne in vain. Every privilege of defence and every opportunity of acquittal is offered to the arraigned party, and all the possibilities of error are cast in his favor. Not a circumstance, nor a sentiment, but leans towards compassion.

And yet, all these things being so, there has grown up among us, and is apparently increasing, a disposition to interfere with the strait march of justice, to arrest and prevent the infliction of deserved punishment. Difficult as it is, and as it ought to be, to condemn, it is becoming equally difficult to execute the sentence; and that is as it ought not to be. Not once in a year, and not out of reverence to a religious celebration, but whenever the worst of crimes are to pay their forfeit to an injured community, there is straightway a movement among certain people, who cannot bear that the guiltiest should suffer, and in the language of the text “they desire a murderer to be granted unto them.” No sooner is an atrocious offence detected, convicted, than an endeavour is made to protect the offender. He becomes

an interesting character. A wide-spread pity is awakened in his behalf. There are recommendations to spare. There are petitions for pardon. The pirate, the highwayman, the secret poisoner, the open stabber, the midnight incendiary who kindles fires under the beds of women and children,—whole families at once,—excites the pity of many, when his crime is proved and his doom pronounced.

I am at a loss to account for it,—I scarcely know on what principle of human nature it is to be explained,—this sympathy of well-meaning persons with those who have outraged every feeling of humanity by their savage force or their cold-hearted depravity. I can understand how the Jewish populace, in an excited hour, should demand the liberation of Barabbas. I can almost enter into the feelings of those, who in a season of panic and extreme depression should empty every convict’s cell, saying, Let us supplicate the holy and frowning heavens together, for we are all transgressors alike. But in a state of society like our own, with institutions so free from abuses and so full of mercifulness,—it is hard to comprehend why there should be such a feverish sensibility in favor of the abandoned, and so intense a wish for something better than the laws.

But let us look thoughtfully at this. Let us make the most favorable supposition, for that will be most likely to prove the true one. We will not say that there may be a rage for forms of seeming benevolence, as well as for other things, and that there is then room for ambition and the love of notoriety to come in, and for a sickly sentiment to parade its emotions, and even for calculating talent to increase its gains. We will say nothing of this kind, for it would be superficial, and would sound harshly, and might seem vindictive. Let us allow, for it will be allowing perhaps no more than the fact, that a tenderness for human suffering and a reverence for human life are at the foundation of the evil,—for I will dare to call it so,—that is now presented to your attention. I reverence such a tenderness, wherever it is sincere and unobtrusive; for it then looks like a genuine fruit of our blessed religion, which is forbearing and placable, and has from the beginning been softening the manners and humanizing the establishments of the world. But it becomes good citizens to look carefully at it, when it pretends to dictate extravagant theories, when it usurps the solemn places of judgment, when it arrays its lists of names that mean nothing, and throws its efforts in the way of public safety. Honored be that generous sensitiveness in its due degree and its proper place! But let us reason with it when it grows excessive; let us resist it when it grows dangerous.

This is no time nor place to enter into argument with the speculator, who contends that society has no right over the lives of its members;—as if it had any more perfect right over their personal liberty;—as if there were not always the right of self-protection; as if the community, in its established order, and by its deliberate enactments, had no right to—what every individual, in multitudes of cases and from his own impulses, should feel bound to do. We may leave such a one to his visionary abstractions. Neither is it intended at all to touch the question, whether our criminal jurisprudence may not be made yet more compassionate; whether legislative wisdom might not invent means of dispensing altogether with the most dreaded punishment of guilt. To this point it is beyond the preacher’s province to go; though he may be allowed to express a doubt whether these days of abounding flagitiousness would be the most fitly chosen for an experiment so full of peril. But take the laws as they are:—they are the only barrier between you and the robber’s violence and the assassin’s knife;—and I would say, revere them. Thwart them not.—Stand by their decisions. Come to their help, all good men and true. Let them not be made ineffectual by your weak relucances. Let them not be brought into mistrust by your objections and commutations and outries, till they have no majesty left. Let them not be undermined by the wasteful and washy tide of mistaken philanthropy. In the name of the divine equity, for the sake of the common protection, stay them not in their righteous though terrible doings. Every attempt to invalidate their spoken decree is a public wrong. Every voice that has sworn to judge only according to the law and the evidence, and then refuses to speak but according to private pity, is false to its oath.

But you think it dreadful that the life of a fellow being should be cut off by a public sentence, and you are impelled to sympathize with his wretchedness, and you cannot but wish to save him if you are able from the impending retribution. Alas! Alas! Reflect how the useful and the good and the dearly beloved are dropping around you, many by lingering inflictions, and many by a swift and sharp fate. See how sparingly the courses of a holy Providence move on.—Observe the sufferings of the righteous. You may then find worthy objects of interest than those who have made themselves outlaws, and wortlier exercises of your affections than in these squandered sympathies.—While the criminal is in prison and in bonds, for he was not fit to go at large, there are thousands who have gone about doing good chained down by disease to beds that are no places of rest, and to apartments as dreary as his though without its degradation. While he is agitated, with the dread of what is coming perhaps more than with contriteness for his sin, multitudes of sensitive minds are sinking under the distresses that they did nothing to incur, or, harassed by anxious toils tormented by the fear of threatened calamities, are almost tempted, like the sufferer in holy writ, to “choose strangling rather than life.” At the very moment while he is expiating to a society that could not safely endure him in its bosom the wrong he had inflicted upon it, some are struck down by a mortal blow in the midst of their honorable exertions; and many a pure spirit, exhausted with the weary conflicts of mortality, is sighing itself back to God. When we think of these things, it does seem wise to resist the effect, that will sometimes be produced upon us by the mere singularity and conspicuousness of what he is about to undergo.—Let us give our hearts to those who are suffering innocently, and to those who are beset with perils for their day’s sake, and leave the Barabases to pass on to the punishment they have drawn down.

I have ventured in this discourse to declare against a feeling, that is indulged by many conscientious persons, and carries with it an air of humanity and religiosity; against the feeling of a strong and intermeddling commiseration for the worst of malefactors, the moment they are to be removed forever beyond the power of harming. I know that it is widely prevalent; for that very reason, and because it is carried to such an excess, I conceive it to be injurious to the supremacy of the laws, to the safety of the commonwealth, and to public morals. Allow me, then, to speak of it with all freedom, while it is at the same time without the wish or intention to show any unnecessary disrespect to the sordid scruples or even the zealous motives of those who may be of another opinion.

There lie grave objections to it, as it is now so frequently manifested among us. It is akin to a morbid

tenderness, that cannot bear the thought of the infliction of pain. It goes to nourish that spurious benevolence, which will not understand that a severe strictness is often the truest mercy, and which imagines that good is certainly done whenever a single instance of suffering is prevented. And then it tends to weaken the abhorrence, that every good mind must feel, and ought to feel, at atrocious deeds. It cannot take all this interest in the perpetrators of them, without impairing the sense of moral distinctions; without sinking some sense of a wholesome detestation against outrage, in the wish to screen the persons by whom it was committed.

Neither let it flatter itself with the idea, that at least it can do no mischief, that if it err at all it is on the blessed side of pity, that it can incur no very serious responsibility by only endeavoring to save. It can lay claim to no such exemption as that, to no such conditional praise. It is directly pernicious. It encourages criminals by holding them up to attention, making them subjects of general concern and animated efforts, and surrounding them with offices of unmixed regard. It all goes to swell the ranks and to elate the hopes of daring villainy and infamous imposture.

And then, besides, it is proportionally injurious to the well-deserving, by thus confounding good with evil, and lavishing upon miscreants the kind will that should wait chiefly on innocence and duty. It is trying to throw down the defences that protect the harmless from violence; and when it snatches the felon from judgment, it makes itself accountable, awfully accountable, for all the dismay and anguish, the desolation and the blood, that may track the steps of that imprudent liberation.

And further still, and that at least, it takes upon itself to interrupt the regularity of public justice. And is this of small account? That justice must owe its chief efficiency to the regular and certain issues of all its determinations. Its deliberate word should be irrevocable. Its stern eyes should be immovable, to freeze the desperate transgressor as with the fixness of fate. Its terrible awards should be surely executed; for every one knows that the greatness of the penalty is of less consequence to deter from an enormity than the certainty of its being exacted. If you tamper with it, if you ease it by soft-hearted interventions, and at every popular caprice, you strip it of all its restraining power, and it becomes the mockery of those whom it should overtake.

But it is time to break away from this unusual topic.

The preacher has seen, himself at least, to be discharging a duty, whether others account it so or not, whether others agree with him or not. He is not indifferent to the alternative, but not uneasy at it. Events are continually occurring, not only in our own Commonwealth, but in its neighborhoods, that seem to indicate a diseased state of sentiment on this subject. He would put in his humble plea against it. He would keep in mind that there are claims of right as well as of compensation. He would contend that the compensation must be sound, which is ever brought into hostility with it.

May that God, who can no more swerve from his equity than from his grace, prepare us all by doing justly while we love mercy, for the great visitation and judgment of souls!

INTELLIGENCE.—Merchants, Store Keepers, and Traders, can find smart, active and capable Men, young Men, and Boys, who have left their names at No. 162 Hanover street for employment. Please call.

2 situations as above are not yet taken, one of which is to carry out bread in the city. A. G. HERSEY.

61—218

WANTED IMMEDIATELY—10 girls to work in a factory. Apply to G. H. MARDEN, corner of Merrimack and Friend sts., near the City Scales.

mi

WANTED—Young men to obtain subscribers for a popular work—apply to G. H. MARDEN, corner of Merrimack and Friend sts., near the city scales.

mi

HAIR CUTTER REMOVED.—The subscriber will inform his friends, that he has removed from No. 68 Pond street, to the Massachusetts Hotel, same street, where he will be pleased to wait on all his customers and the public, in general. BENJAMIN P. BASSETT.

B. P. B. tenders his sincere thanks to those Ladies and Gentlemen, for their kind patronage at his former stand, and solicits a continuance of the same at his new stand, Ladies Hair Cut, and Curled, particular attention paid to the cutting of children’s hair. 2awm

jan27

PAINTED FLOOR CLOTHS

CONSTANTLY ON HAND, and for sale by the subscriber, at

Factory in Purchase place, opposite No. 81 Purchase st., a large assortment of Painted Carpets, of all dimensions.

jan18

M&Wm GEO. DWYER.

YOUNG MEN, in want of a pleasant and lucrative em- ployment, are invited to call at 51 Congress st., (3d floor of State) office No. 12, up stairs. M&Wm—115

FREIGHT TO WORCESTER will be forwarded per Railroad on the following terms:—

Midz generally, \$8.50 per 2000 lbs.

Wool, furniture, feathers, and other articles, bulky and light, will be charged higher.

Spars, barrels, and similar combustibles, will not be taken on terms.

Goods should be sent before dark to JOHN FREEMAN, Master of Transportation, at the Depot, with a memorandum of the articles, and the name and residence of the consignee. J. F. CURTISS, Sup’t.

SHIPPERS OF GOODS from New York and elsewhere, to be forwarded on the Railroad, are notified that the Corporation will not be responsible for the same, unless they are delivered as above at the Depot. 2awm—11

JOHN E. BROWN, VETERINARY SURGEON, respectfully informs the public, that he will keep a stable at Mr. Foster’s Stable, Devonshire st., and Mr. Dodge’s stable, Milk st., where he may be found every morning from 9 to 10, 11pm—eoty*

TYPE FOR SALE—at one third the original cost; but little above the price of old type metal, 187 lbs Pica 337 lbs Long Primer—52 lbs do—264 lbs Long Primer Bourgeois—127 lbs Bourgeois—343 lbs Brevier. The above type is in good condition, and but little worn. The Type and Printed Specimens may be seen at the Printing Office of L. R. BUTTS, corner of School and Washington streets.

eoipw—eoty*

FOR SALE.—The entire stock of an extensive dealer in fine China, glass, &c.—together with a lease of the store, five years to run—said store is one of the best stands in this city, and can be had on reasonable terms, if applied for soon—no one need apply unless he can pay down at least \$5000. For further information, inquire of U. J. CLARK, No. 13 Union st.

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NOTICE.—A Systematical, Vegetable and Vapour Steam Bath, under the direction of Dr. A. Andrew. The Proprietor, in their own observations, and the approbation of many Physicians, have considered, that an apparatus of this kind for Steam Bathing, highly necessary, if conducted in a proper manner, and the public may be assured of its operations, in a manner systematical,—not however, infringing on the Thomsonian System.

The patient of any skillful Physician can be attended to in the operation, agreeable to his order, or he can attend them in person if he chooses. There will be female attendance on Ladies, who are qualified. Those who are desirous, and deem it necessary, may come through this salubrious operation, are requested to call as above.

Fresh Garments will be in readiness, for those entering the Bath, and suitable preparation of Oils, for the closing of the pores, on leaving the Bathing Room. This Bath is also calculated for people in health, and is preferred to the common mode, for cleansing the skin. Price 50 cents for water—\$1 30 for steam—\$1 50 for vapor—\$1 75 for steam and vapor.

129

SHEETINGS AND SHIRTINGS.—Portsmouth Co. 35 and 36 inch Brown Cottons, for sale by GRANT, SLAVER & CO., 5 Liberty square.

d22

BUCKSKINS.—Just received by the late arrivals from Europe, by J. & W. ROSS, No. 7 Congress street and 3 Congress square, a splendid assortment of Rubbed Buckskins for Gentlemen’s Pantaloons.

129

PRICES REDUCED.—Dobson’s Patent Double Reflecting Baker, warranted to suit, by WM. B. OLIVER, No. 13 Union st.

feb23

FRESH FISH.—At wholesale and retail, opposite No. 67 Long wharf, North side—constantly on hand through the winter season. For further information inquire of HOSEA SINGER, No. 67 Long wharf. epif

d15

BOSTON MORNING POST.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 1836.

STENOGRAPHIC GLIMPSES OF CONGRESS.

Washington, February 25, 1836.

Senate.—Mr Preston's speech, like the history of Ras-selas, was "concluded, in which there was no conclusion." I thought he had finished yesterday. His speech was a Cretan labyrinth without a clue; and when he had led us through maze after maze,—not much to our amazement or amusement,—and finally got out of them all, I thought he had reached the end. Quite the contrary—it was only a few figures of the quadrille, not the end of the dance. I suppose he felt a little like our guide in the catacombs of Montmartre : "Have you got to the end?" inquired the company. "No," said he; "but about far enough, if we wish to get back," pointing to his dying candle! Mr Webster was of the same opinion with regard to Mr Preston: "adjourn, adjourn," said he, evidently anxious lest his friend should be lost in the catacombs of his own argument, without clue or candle. But to return, or rather to proceed. Mr P. spoke of the vast amount expended and projected for forts,—thirty-four millions; of the great numbers of men to be employed in constructing them,—30 to 40 thousand; thought they would all become an army of partisans; that the amount to be expended would be equal to a capital of 165 millions;—and all this would go to the support of government, &c. &c.

I wonder whether Mr Calhoun saw this with his prophetic vision, when he projected the system which Mr P. claims for him? I rather think he did; and don't think it now becomes Jove or his satellites to reprobate others with reaping the political advantage of a system which he claims to have projected, but could not consummate. But let this pass. There is no denying the fact that patronage will support power, though it does not confer it—else people out of power would not be so anxious about contracting patronage;—but it does not always secure "popularity." "Give us patronage," said Mr Clay, "and we will make ourselves popular!"—But he "bragged" the premiership against the Presidency,—and lost it! This sort of "bragging" may be a "safe precedent" for a blackleg, but not a sound principle for a statesman. The people will award the Americans PURPLE neither to patronage nor popularity, but to principle and patriotism; and no man can win it by any other stake.

But where did I leave Mr P.? Oh, aye!—he was surrounded by an army of partisans; and he thought it best not to employ them, because it would raise the rate of wages, though he did not say the labourer was not worthy of his hire, but thought the hire worthy of the labourers. Next he passed on and over all the fortifications, and paying a salute to each, came at last to the Steam Batteries; and, as he knew nothing about them, moved to reduce the appropriation of \$600,000, to \$100,000, to try "experiments" upon them. He was for having the means of defence accelerated and augmented, but proposed no specific result himself. He attacked one of the forts on the Kennebec, moving a reduction of its appropriation; and this I believe was the final end of his conclusion.

Mr Clay instantly rose, and opposed any vote on the motion of Mr P., saying that it was necessary that the Senate should be possessed with all the facts in the case, before they proceeded to take any vote or action on the bill; and he moved that the documents connected with it be printed.

Col. Benton made some remarks, which I could not hear, and—

Mr Shepley rose in reply to Mr P.'s remarks relative to the State of Maine, which he said was totally defenceless; that he had studiously refrained from stating its defenceless condition, till the late danger was now past; that it could not be protected by a naval force, but only by fortifications. He went into a full statement of the condition of the coast, and the necessity of its defence, with that lucid, methodical and able manner which always distinguishes this gentleman.

House.—Mr Pearce, of Rhode Island, made a speech to-day against the New York Relief Bill, far, far beyond my utmost conception of his ability, though I entertained the very highest opinion of it. I know not in what terms to characterize it—it was tremendous! It devastated more completely all the splendid array of arguments in favor of the bill, than the fire did the city—for it extinguished even the smoke of their ruins. He has not yet concluded, but has the floor to-morrow.

REIS EFFENDI.

Washington, February 26, 1836.

The weather is not very weatherwise, else it would not have sent us a foot of snow last night, which is altogether a surplus, and quite exceeded the estimates of the revenue from the sky for the present quarter. The charters of all the snow-banks of this District expired not two days since; and now, egad, we have a new batch, without any bribery or corruption. But I warn them to "beware the ides of March," and prepare to wind up their concerns.

Senate.—The subject of an appropriation for building a bridge across the Wabash between Illinois and Indiana, and continuing a public road, was under discussion to-day. Messrs Hendricks, Tipton, Ewing, Robinson, Benton, and Niles, advocated, and Messrs Clay and Crittenden opposed it. It was supported on the internal improvement principle which established the Cumberland Road; and it was contended that it would enhance the value of the public lands in that region, and facilitate the intercourse and settlement of the country. The bridge was objected to by Mr Clay, because Kentucky had to build her own bridges, and there was none over the Ohio; and the road was objected to, because it was to be McAdamized;—and what think you his argument was? He advanced three paces, bluffed his nose, retreated, laid down his handkerchief, advanced again, threw himself into an oratorical posture, and, smiling with the most irresistible persuasion, said—"Now what do you think, Mr President, happened to me this very session? I had to transport my bull, Orazimbo, at a great expense, from Louisville [I think he said] to Ashland, (or Lexington, I forget which,) because he couldn't travel!" This convinced all the ladies in the gynaeum at once! and they quit their apartment a moment after, laughing, giggling, and chatting, in ecstasies of delight at the transport of Orazimbo, and the eloquence of his keeper! Clay's argument was not original, however; Cobbett had used it before him: "Mushrooms don't agree with me," said the M. P. of Oldham, "and they ought not to be cultivated!"—"My bull, Orazimbo," says the M. C. of Ashland, "can't travel a McAdamized road; therefore none should be constructed!"

The Senate adjourned to Monday, without taking a vote.

House.—Jesse Smith's claim for Paymaster's certificates passed to-day, by a vote of 111 to 72. Much other private business was transacted. The consideration of the New York Relief Bill did not come up.

REIS EFFENDI.

Gen Garrison and Frank Granger have been nominated as candidates for President and Vice President, by the Anti-Masons and Whigs of Vermont. Twenty seven Anti-Masons, friends to Mr Van Buren, withdrew from the Convention.

The fourth Annual Report of the Board of Managers of the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society, with some account of the annual meeting, has been published in a pamphlet of sixty-eight pages, by Mr. Isaac Knapp of this city. The author of the Report appears confident of the success of the Society, from the fact that "God has always chosen the foolish to confound the wise." If this be true, there is much encouragement in it for the Abolitionists. The Report expresses thanks to Dr Channing for his important aid—praises Garrison—says the Abolitionists are a brave set of fellows, and thinks it a great shame that no church in the city was granted to them to hold their meeting in, and a still greater scandal that Faneuil Hall could not be obtained for that purpose. It says that two prominent rioters of Boston have been elected to the Legislature, and one of them chosen Director of the House of Correction, but shall not multiply words about the riot at the Female Anti Slavery Society will take care of that. A ranting letter from Garrison occupies a conspicuous place in the "Proceedings of the Annual Meeting," in which the modest author compares Tappan, Thompson and himself to "three rays from a noon-day sun." Professor Follett made a long speech in favor of admitting blacks as members of the Society. Mr Goodell of Providence, knew a man so influenced by reading Dr Channing's book upon Slavery, that in one of the coldest days of January he sought repeatedly the doors and windows for the fresh air, and resumed his reading with a pale cheek—but when he came to the chapter of "Explanations," he was cool as a cucumber—this chapter, Mr Goodell thought, spoilt the whole pamphlet. Mr Greenough read a Constitutional Disquisition, and Ellis Gray Loring was elected one of the Counsellors. They all insist upon it that the Abolitionists possess courage equal to Julius Caesar's, that not one of them was ever frightened in his life—and are all willing to die a dozen times for the good of the cause.

Handel and Haydn Society.—The Handel and Haydn Society performed the "Oratorio of David," with full orchestral accompaniments, on Sunday evening last, before a large and delighted audience. This is a new Oratorio, written by Neukom. The Society have been at much expense, and to no little pains, in preparing for its performance. We think it far superior to any thing of the kind we have ever before heard, and have no doubt it will amply repay for the efforts its production required. The gentleman who sustained the part of "David," seemed to possess every requisite qualification for his beautiful, but arduous task; his articulation is good, his voice clear and very powerful, with great compass. The airs, "O for the rescue of my father's land," and "When fairest on a Monarch's brow," were peculiarly charming. We only regretted that the President of the Society did not assign the part of "Jonathan" to himself,—his fine voice with that of "David's," would have added much to the effect of the "Canon." The choruses were done with that exact correctness for which the performances of this Society are so justly distinguished, and the whole piece executed in a masterly manner. We understand it is to be repeated on Sunday evening next.

The Rev. J. L. Frothingham's Sermon, delivered on the 21st ult. before his Society, "The First Church," we have copied upon our First Page entire. We took it up for the purpose of making extracts, but upon perusal, were so highly pleased with the whole of it, that we could not forbear the temptation to re-print every sentence, and for doing which we are confident our readers will heartily thank us. The commutation of Wade's sentence we spoke of at the time it occurred, as an act of mistaken mercy, and recent events have fully proved the correctness of our view of the case.—The "seeming benevolence" extended to Wade has emboldened the incendiary, until scarcely a night passes that the community is not alarmed by his attempts to execute his hellish purposes. The time has arrived when the public can find safety only in the prompt and faithful execution of the laws, and in the manifestation of that moral courage and firmness so eloquently and forcibly invoked by the Reverend author of the discourse upon which we have commented.

The Secret Mine continues to draw crowded and fashionable audiences at the Lion Theatre. The lively entertainments in the circle also maintain their original popularity, and the beautiful Walter and Cotillion Entrée, arranged by Mr Buckley, is nightly received with unabated applause. Messrs Robinson, Howard, Rowe and Whitlock, still astonish by their daring feats of horsemanship; but to Master Stokes must be conceded the palm, for a peculiar ease of action, graceful evolutions, elegant attitudes, and unfailing success in whatever he attempts.

The editor of the U. S. Gazette, had a chat in the streets of Philadelphia, the other day, with his "old friend and crony," Mr Butler, who is one hundred and six years of age. The old veteran thinks he can make something of a mark upon a piece of beef, notwithstanding he has been wearing out his teeth for the last century.

Mr Vanburgh, a gentleman connected with the Zoological Institute, in New York, gave notice that he would, on Monday last, take a lamb and a "little child," and enter with them into the cage of the Royal Lion, and there spend some time, to the astonishment of the crowd present. And further, that he would wash his hands in fresh blood, and hold them at the nose of the Lion.

An association is forming in New York for the purpose of petitioning the Legislature for a charter, with power to furnish gas light at a much more reasonable rate than the present prices. The object of the association is to light the city with a species of gas called "portable gas," invented by a physician of high standing.

The New York Evening Star intimates that Nicholas Biddle will not accept the office of President of the new U. S. Bank, but offer himself for a seat in Congress, where he will endeavor to induce the government to accept of his new institution, upon condition that Pennsylvania will surrender its charter.

In the "Beautiful Incident" published in Saturday's Post, the chapter of the Bible alluded to was misstated, it should have been the *sixty-fourth* chapter of Isaiah, instead of the fifty-fourth.

The Gazette says that the Hon. John Davis is about to resign his office of District Judge, which he has held for the last 30 years.

DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY TREASURER,
TIMOTHY PRESCOTT, OF CONCORD.

Mr Editor—I am pleased to find that the Democrats of Middlesex County have resolved to support TIMOTHY PRESCOTT, Esq. of Concord, for the office of County Treasurer, in opposition to JOHN KEYES, Esq. who has held the office for the last twenty-three years, and who is a member of the great State *Whig* Committee. I have known Mr Prescott for many years, and have always found him a Democrat both in principle and practice; as a member of the old Republican party he was one of the last that went into the *amalgamation* that formed the National Republican party, and one of the first to come out of it. Last year he rendered essential aid in electing five excellent Democratic Senators in Middlesex, by withdrawing his name from a ticket that was formed at Waltham for no other purpose than to distract the people and defeat the regularly nominated union ticket. He not only declined in favor of the Democratic ticket, but voted for it,—which to my mind is evidence enough of his Republicanism to ensure him the support of our whole party in Middlesex next Monday. Further, he is a firm and decided friend of the nomination of MARTIN VAN BUREN for the Presidency, and will lend his influence in Middlesex to carry that Republican County for him next fall. By permitting the above nomination, which I find in the Lowell Patriot, to remain in your paper during this week, and giving it a place in the Statesman, you will oblige.

A MIDDLESEX DEMOCRAT.

Some bold and daring villain succeeded in setting fire to this and the Centinel office, adjoining, at about a quarter before eleven o'clock, last (Monday,) night; both at the same time, and in a similar manner. The lamps, usually kept in the entries, were removed from their situations and placed against the doors, up one flight of stairs, both which were in a flame when discovered. The villain barely escaped detection, as our composers, who had just done, and one of our messengers, who was coming to work, met on the stairs, and were the first to discover it; a minute could not have elapsed from the time he committed the act.

Similar attempts were also made to set fire to the building No 17 Court street, and to the Daily Advertiser Printing Office in Congress street. About 2 o'clock yesterday morning, one of the hands employed on the Commercial Gazette, discovered a man on the office stairs, who made a precipitate retreat. He was followed as far as the old South, where he succeeded in eluding the vigilance of his pursuers. His object undoubtedly was to fire the building.

Some one, we suppose it to be Mr Field himself, has sent us a large pamphlet, containing an account of the trial of R. M. Field for a Libel upon Mrs Susan Torrey, which took place at Woodstock, Vt. in November last. We are so strongly prejudiced against the defendant, and so disgusted with the vulgarity of his Counsel, that we feel incompetent to remark upon the case impartially, and shall therefore say nothing about it.

A man in Wilmington, advertises for a young man about 15 or 16 years of age to stand in a grocery store until he is 21. The Senator from Worcester had better direct Master Tilestone to forward one of his waxy figures—he has a plenty that are old enough, and that have served a long apprenticeship at the trade.

The Letter Bag of the brig Regulator, wrecked near Plymouth, has been picked up on the beach, and deposited in the Boston Post Office—the letters in a mutilated state.

The Gazette quotes the Harrisburg Chronicle as a Jackson paper—this is not correct—it is a Bank Journal, completely under the thumb of the *Old Nick*.

Tremont Theatre.—Our musical friends will be happy to learn that the Woods have arrived, and will appear this evening in *La Sonnambula*.

Land Admiral Reeside has retired from the U. S. Mail Establishment, with an ample fortune.

Thirty thousand dollars worth of land was sold at Vandalia, Illinois in the month of January.

Mr Van Buren.—The great meeting of the friends of Mr Van Buren, in Boston, last week, must encourage every Democrat to be uniting in his efforts to carry the electoral vote of Massachusetts for Martin Van Buren, and Richard M. Johnson. That it can be done we feel every assurance, if the Democratic party will be united. Union is strength—and those who are not with us are against us—those who are not for us are our enemies. The Van Buren party is every day gaining accessions. The Antimasons have nominated him, and every Antimasonic press in the state, we believe, has hoisted the Van Buren flag. The Lynn Record has also declared for Van Buren, which seals the fate of whiggery in Essex county. Let Democrats cultivate union, and Martin Van Buren can have the vote of the Bay State, and the still-born candidate of the city of Boston will be minus fourteen votes.—*Glocester Democrat*.

Municipal.—At a meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen on Monday:—A communication was received from Rufus R. Cook, declining to be considered a candidate for re-election as an Engineer of the Fire Department: read and accepted. The following gentlemen were nominated and appointed Engineers of the Fire Department, viz.: Messrs Henry Smith, James G. Sanderson, Richard A. Newell, Charles S. Clark, John Shelton, Theodore Washburn, Thomas B. Warren, James Barry, John Green Jr., Henry Fowle Jr., Peter C. Jones, Thomas A. Williams, George W. Wilkins, and Lewis Dennis. The committee on the petition of the inhabitants of South Boston to be set off into a separate ward reported against granting the same: accepted.

The large and handsome meeting-house, occupied by the orthodox congregational church and society at Meriden Bridge, N. H. together with the mansion house and out buildings belonging to Lyman B. Walker, Esq. and a tinsmith's shop, were entirely destroyed by fire on Saturday. The flames were first discovered in the porch of the meeting house, supposed to have taken from the stove funnel.—*Atlas*.

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The Astor Hotel is nearly all plastered. The windows are now nearly all put in—the furniture prepared and one half the parlors are taken by fashionable families who intend to give up house-keeping in May. Boyden the elder will open the hotel positively on that day. He is now getting in his furniture.—*New York Herald*.

Should the sales of Public Lands during the rest of the year bear the same proportion to other years, as is indicated by the sales in the month of January, the revenue from the sales of Public Lands alone, during the present year (1836) will exceed *twenty-seven millions of dollars*.

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MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE.

Tuesday, March 1, 1836.—In the Senate. It was ordered on motion of Mr Parker, that a committee be appointed for the purpose of considering what measures should be adopted for the care and superintendence of the Warren Bridge. Messrs. Parker, Allen, and B. P. Williams were appointed a committee.

On motion of Mr Hudson, the petition of the Worcester and Norwich, and Boston, Norwich and New London Railroad corporation, was recommitted.

The bill to continue an act concerning Warren Bridge, reported by Mr Whitmarsh, and again taken up on its passage to a third reading. The question was taken by yeas and nays, and decided in the negative, 18 to 12.

In the House.—The resolve providing for codification of the common law, from the Senate, amended by striking out the amendment offered by Mr Rantoul, authorizing the Commissioners to proceed in the codification of some part of the criminal law, and substituting therefore a proposition that the commissioners should merely be appointed to inquire into the expediency of codification in general.

After a debate, in which Messrs. Hillard, Waters, Brigham, Park, Robinson, Rantoul, Andrews, Stowell, French and Emmons took part, the House non-concurred.

Joice Heath is not dead—On Wednesday last, as we learn from the best authority, she was living at Hebron, in Connecticut, where she was then. The subject on which Doctor Rogers and the Medical Faculty of Barclay street have been exercising their knife and their ingenuity, is the remains of a respectable old negro called AUNT NELLY, who has lived many years in a small house by herself, in Hartshorn, belonging to Mr Clarke. She is, as Dr Rogers sagely discovers, and Doctor Locke his colleague accurately records, only eighty years of age. Aunt Nelly before death, complained of old age and infirmity. She was otherwise in good spirits, however, has been very severe, and so she gave up the ghost a few days ago.—*New York Herald*.

Fatal Accident.—A man named Amon Twigg, a resident of Flintstone, in Allegany County, was killed, while hunting deer on the 14th inst., by the accidental discharge of a gun in the hands of a companion. The deceased had made an ineffectual attempt to discharge his own gun at a deer which they previously wounded, and called for his companion's gun, who immediately handed it to him, but in the act of doing so it went off, and the ball struck Mr. T. just under the ear, causing instant death.—*Batt. Pat.*

Mr Mason, of Philadelphia, has invented a Steam Boat, the wheel of which give it motion by operating on the AIR!

The plan of a city charter for Lowell has been reported by a committee of the town, and submitted to the citizens for consideration.—*Daily*.

REVIEW OF THE BOSTON MARKET

FOR THE WEEK ENDING TUESDAY, MARCH 1.

ASHES.—There is a steady demand for small parcels of both descriptions at our quoted prices. The supply of Pearls is equal to present wants. Sales Pearls at \$3.00 a 25 cts, and Pots at 7.50 per 100 lbs.

BEANS.—Saled by auction 18 tierces foreign white at 1.77 per bushel of 62 lbs.

CANISTERS.—Canister Spelt, Boston manufacture, at 33 1/2 cts, and Nantucket inferior quality at 31 1/2 cts. 6 mos. no charge for boxes. Steady sales. Moulds without change in prices.

COAL.—Sales by auction of New Castle at 13 1/2 cts. per ton.

CORN MEAL.—Very dull article, small sales at 4.50

